

Pascos'04 and Pran Nath Fest : Bulletin #1

The 10th international symposium on “Particles, Strings and Cosmology” will be held at Northeastern University, Boston from Monday, 16 August through Sunday, 22 August 2004. PASCOS is an interdisciplinary symposium on the interface of particle physics, string theory and cosmology, which originated at Northeastern University in 1990. Since then it has been held at several other leading institutions, i.e., at Berkeley, Syracuse, Johns Hopkins, UC Davis, Chapel Hill, and most recently at TIFR (Mumbai). The symposium will bring together leading experts in the three disciplines to discuss their interconnections, assess the current progress and the possible future directions. There will be a strong experimental component in the scientific program with a number of experimental talks in the area of particle physics and of cosmology.

This year the symposium will include a special program (the Pran Nath Fest) honoring Matthews Distinguished University Professor Pran Nath on the occasion of his 65th birthday for his pioneering contributions over four decades in the fields of high energy theory, supersymmetry, supergravity, and unification. The tentative dates for this symposium are Wednesday and Thursday (18 and 19 August).

SYMPOSIUM TOPICS

The symposium will cover the following topics.

- Large Scale Structure of the Universe
- WMAP Data and Implications
- Neutrino Physics and Astrophysics
- SUSY and Higgs Phenomenology
- Extra Dimensions
- Flavor Problem and CP Violation
- Dark Matter
- M Theory
- SUGRA/Strings/Brane Models
- Strings and Black Holes
- String Cosmology
- Future Directions

There will be roughly an equal number of talks in the areas of cosmology, particle physics and string theory with highlights on the interface, such as SUSY/strings, dark matter, string & brane cosmology. We also expect a strong experimental representation at the talks, related to WMAP data, neutrino physics, dark matter, B physics and physics at colliders (Tevatron, LHC).

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Along with the previous PASCOS chairs, a number of leading theorists and experimentalists have agreed to serve on the international advisory committee of the symposium. These include

Jonathan Bagger (Johns Hopkins)
John Bahcall (Institute for Advanced Study)
John Ellis (CERN)
Paul Frampton (Chapel Hill)
Margaret Geller (Harvard Smithsonian)
Sheldon Glashow (BU)
David Gross (ITP, Santa Barbara)
Jack Gunion (UC Davis)
Pran Nath (NU)
Pierre Ramond (UFlorida)
Norman Ramsey (Harvard)
D. P. Roy (TIFR)
John Schwarz (Caltech)
Joseph Silk (Oxford)
Yoji Totsuka (KEK, Japan)
Michael T. Vaughn (NU)
Alexander Vilenkin (Tufts)
Albrecht Wagner (DESY)
Kameshwar C. Wali (Syracuse)
Steven Weinberg (U Texas, Austin)
Frank Wilczek (MIT)

In addition to the invited talks there will be a number of contributed talks for which abstracts can be submitted via email or through the registration web page. All the details of the conference related to accommodations, registration, etc. can be found on the conference web page and will be updated periodically. The conference web page addresses are

<http://www.pascos04.neu.edu>
<http://www.nathfest.neu.edu>

Contact email address: **pascos04_NathFest@neu.edu**

LODGING

The participants are responsible for their own hotel arrangements. Boston is an attractive tourist destination and the hotel situation is generally very tight. Thus the participants are advised to make their hotel reservation now even if they may not be fully sure of their plans. A list of hotels and motels in a few mile radius of Northeastern University will be put up on the symposium web page soon. Further, Northeastern University has agreed to provide a significant number of spaces in the student dormitories right on campus within a hundred yards or so of the symposium lecture halls. These accommodations will be significantly cheaper. Information on how to book dormitory accommodations will also be made available on the web very soon.

LOGISTICS

The symposium will be held at the main campus of Northeastern University, at 360 Huntington Avenue, Boston, 02115 MA. The symposium will begin on the morning of Monday August 16 and end on the afternoon of Sunday 22. The nearest airport is the Boston Logan airport. Northeastern University can be reached by subway from the airport. However, the most convenient way to get to the university is by taxi, which should cost around \$25 from the airport.

PROCEEDINGS

The proceedings of PASCOS04 and the NathFestschrift will be published separately in two volumes. The papers for all the talks given at the symposium and at the Fest will be included. The instructions for the preparation of manuscripts for the proceedings will be made available on the web.

REGISTRATION

The participants are requested to register via the web. The registration fee is \$375 if paid before July 1, 2004 and \$425 thereafter. Payment may be made either by credit card (using the secure web page which will shortly be accessible at the Pascos04/NathFest home page) or by an international money order or a personal check drawn on a US bank payable to "Northeastern University" with a notation at the bottom left hand side mentioning "Pascos04_NathFest" and mailed to the following address

Pascos04_NathFest Symposium
Department of Physics
Northeastern University
Boston, MA, 02115
USA

If the payment is on arrival it should be made in cash in US dollars or by a recognized credit card (Visa/Master Card/American Express/Discover).

The symposium funds are very limited. Part of these have been used to keep the registration fee at an affordable level. Thus the participants are expected to pay the registration fees, travel and housing using their own grant monies. Some help may be available for exceptional cases such as participants from the third world countries or the mostneedy junior participants depending upon the amount of external support received.

LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

George Alverson, Luis A. Anchordoqui, Emanuela Barberis, Darien Wood, Haim Goldberg, Tarek Ibrahim, Tom Paul, Stephen Reucroft, Yogi Srivastava, John Swain, Tomasz Taylor, Michael T. Vaughn (Chair).